

GULBERWICK, QUARFF & CUNNINGSBURGH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 23rd AUGUST 2022 **VIA ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCING AT 7.30PM**

A. THE CIRCULAR CALLING THE MEETING HELD WAS READ BY THE CLERK.

Nominations for chair were called for but none were forthcoming. Mr C Clark agreed to stand in as interim chairperson for the meeting.

B. PRESENT	Mrs L Johnston	Mrs P Christie	Mrs M Davis
EX OFFICIO	Mr R McGregor (until 8.35pm)	Mr B Peterson (from 7.36pm)	
IN ATTENDANCE	Mrs K Geddes	Mrs A Arnett	
CHAIRPERSON	Mr C Clark (interim)		
APOLOGIES	Mrs S Wishart Mr R Skinley	Mr M Duncan PC Malcolm Macleod	Mr E MacPherson Mr S Douglas
NOT PRESENT	Mr A Duncan	Dr A Armitage	

Information – due to the Covid-19 Virus pandemic meetings are being held online.

C. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Mrs K Geddes declared an interest in both SCBF applications in in Item 4. She is an employee of SRT and her husband is a member of Shetland Golf Club.
Cllr R McGregor is a member of the SIC Planning Committee so will leave before Item 7 – Plannig Applications, is discussed.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 5 JULY 2022

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 5 July were approved on the motion of Mrs L Johnston and seconded by Mrs P Christie.

1. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising from the last minutes.

---Cllr B Peterson joined the meeting 7.36pm---

2. POLICE REPORT

The clerk read out details of the Police Report for June and July. There was only one incident recorded for the community council area – one of careless driving. Members were surprised at the large number for Lerwick – 176 – and asked if they could get more information on what the figures and statistics are over time, and whether they are as worrying as they sound. Members also commented on how many of the incidents are drug-related and asked if they could have more data on the drug figures too.

ACTION: Clerk to ask for more data on the figures in the police report.

3. FINANCE

The bank statement on August 23rd reads £16,195.27

The only activity in the account outwith the usual is the payments to The Kitchen Table for the Free Hot Meal Project. The grant to the Cunningsburgh Hall has been used up and GQC CC paid the £20 shortfall for the last week they had money for – 30th March, then used a further £2,340 of the Shetland Charitable Trust grant to pay the remaining weeks up to 15th June. There is now £2,140 left of the £4,500 grant.

The Community Development Fund grant for £3,000 and the core funding of £9,923 both came into the account from the SIC on July 8th.

None of our grant budget has yet been spent. Members to please push the grant applications for the next meeting.

Covid Relief Fund/Free Hot Meals Project

The money for the free hot meals is coming to an end – further invoices from the Kitchen Table sent this week show that after they have been paid there will only be approximately two weeks left of meals. Members agreed that it is not something which the community council can be continuing but worried that there is still need there. It was decided to hold a community meeting bringing lots of different groups together to try to see if the project can be continued – perhaps in a similar way, but also perhaps looking at different options for community projects that meet the changing needs of those receiving the meals.

ACTION: Clerk to book the Ben End of the Cunningsburgh Hall on Wednesday 31st August and to let the Kitchen Table know about the meeting, asking for their attendance. Mrs Arnett to send invites out to community groups. All to share that grant applications are available.

4. GRANT APPLICATIONS & SHETLAND COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND UPDATE

There were two applications from the Shetland Community Benefit Fund Advanced Grant Scheme.

The first was awarded the full amount requested:

The Shetland Recreational Trust - £300 towards a project to encourage and enable more disadvantaged groups to access physical activity.

Members expressed concern at funding a large, Shetland-wide trust but agreed that the project had merit as it was aimed at the most disadvantaged in Shetland, and agreed to fund because they were asking for just £300.

Cllr B Peterson explained that at Sandwick Community Council they had decided to only fund applications which had a very clear benefit to the Sandwick community and that many of the Shetland-wide applications fell short of this requirement.

Shetland Golf Club asked for £2,500 towards an indoor golf facility and simulator. Members felt it was a good project but that it was not one that the Community Council should be funding, especially as the remaining funds for this year are too low to fund anything other than a very small portion of what had been requested.

ACTION: Clerk to complete and return the paperwork for the SCBF.

5. ROAD ISSUES/CAMPAIGN FOR REDUCED SPEED LIMITS

There was no update on any roads issues but members had read the local media reports that changes were to be made to the Black Gaet junction. Cllr McGregor agreed to find out more detail and report back before the next meeting.

Members expressed concern about the latest changes made to the speed limits in the area – none of them are in any areas where the Community Council have requested reductions in speed limits, and though they agree the 50mph limit at the Black Gaet junction may be helpful, it is changes to the junction itself that they have been asking for and which they feel will make the greatest positive impact. It is hoped that the junction will be re-designed and physical changes made to it.

Members felt that the rapid change in speed limits coming out of the south end of Lerwick from 30mph to 40pmh and then not long after to 50mph is confusing and perhaps even unnecessary. They also worried how cars would get up the Sound Brae driving at only 30mph during winter on a snowy or icy road.

ACTION: Cllr McGregor to report back on the possible changes to the Black Gaet junction.

6. GULBERWICK, QUARFF & CUNNINGSBURGH DEVELOPMENT GROUP UPDATE

The group that meets to try to push forward development ideas for the community council area has not had many meetings since the last time the community council met. Another meeting was due to be held on Wednesday 24th (tomorrow) but it was agreed more people may be able to make the following day.

The meeting with the Scottish Community Development Centre was postponed due to a staff member at the Centre being ill. A possible next step may be to reschedule the meeting and also to speak to Voluntary Action Shetland, but it was agreed to have another group meeting first. It may be beneficial to do further engagement with the community before doing anything else and the group intend to talk though next steps in how to do this at tomorrow's meeting.

ACTION: Mr Clark to keep everyone informed.

7. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

This item has been moved to the end of the meeting to allow Cllr McGregor to be more easily present for all other items.

8. CONSULTATION ON ENERGY DEVELOPMENT PRINCIPLES

An email from SIC Director – Infrastructure, John Smith was passed on by SIC Community Council Liaison Officer, Mr M Duncan, asking for comments on the draft Energy Development Principles.

He said the SIC have promoted them to existing and potential developments since the draft was published in January 2022, and have also discussed them with the UK and Scottish Government and their agencies such as HIE, and with local partners like the Shetland Fisherman's Association and the Shetland Community Benefit Fund.

For further information Mr Smith attached links to Council reports in November 2021 and January 2022 where the matter was discussed:

November 2021 Report

- <https://coins.shetland.gov.uk/submissiondocuments.asp?submissionid=27191>

January 2022 Report

- <https://coins.shetland.gov.uk/submissiondocuments.asp?submissionid=27368>

ACTION: Papers read and noted. Members wishing to submit a response on behalf of the Community Council to do so.

10. AOCB

1. ASCC Meeting – Tuesday 13th September

Volunteers to attend this meeting have already come forward and will receive the full papers prior to the meeting.

ACTION: Mrs P Christie and Mrs M Davis to attend and report back at the October meeting.

2. Free Period Products

Mrs Arnett explained that it has now become law in Scotland for free period products to become available to anyone who needs them. They have been available in a number of venues such as schools for some time but will be more widely available from now on – for example in leisure centres, health centres and other community venues. Shetland Islands Council is also planning to be one of the few local authorities launching the full scheme by posting out the products to the homes of those who need them. This is a future development which will be launched when the logistics have more fully been explored.

3. Torches in Schools

Supporting Elaine Skinley, SIC Road Safety Officer to distribute some of her free torches to schools in the community was last discussed in January 2022. It was agreed to see if this could be moved forward now that Covid restrictions have eased.

ACTION: Clerk to contact Mrs Skinley and the schools.

4. Meetings

Members again expressed the desire for face-to-face meetings to go ahead. It was decided to ask Mr Duncan what the time scale was for the SIC to purchase the equipment necessary for hybrid meetings to go ahead.

The possibility of more joint work with the two other south mainland community councils was also discussed and everyone present agreed that this is something they would like to encourage and explore. Mrs Christie shared that there used to be regular joint meetings of the councils about 20 years ago and said that they were productive and popular meetings. She said she will look in the community work office to see if there is any paperwork from these meetings on record. It was agreed to add the idea to the agenda for next meeting. Cllr Peterson also agreed to bring it up at the next Sandwick meeting.

ACTION: Clerk to email Mr Duncan about the timeline for the purchase of the technology needed for hybrid meetings. The possibility of joint meetings of the south mainland community councils to be added to the agenda next month. Cllr Peterson to bring it up at the next Sandwick meeting. Mrs Christie to look out old paperwork from the joint meetings.

---Cllr McGregor left 8.35pm---

7. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

There were two planning applications which members were required to comment on. There were no objections or comments to return.

[2022/186/PPF](#): Erect dwelling house with air source heat pump, Plot 1, Aisterlea, Cunningsburgh

[2022/187/PPF](#): Erect dwelling house with air source heat pump, Plot 3, Aisterlea, Cunningsburgh

ACTION: Clerk to send responses to SIC Planning.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 4th October 2022.

Meeting Ends – 8.42 pm.

CHAIR

12. OUTSTANDING ITEMS

February 2021 – Radicle Road – an SIC Roads engineer is to look at the road to see if any maintenance work can be done to the verges to improve the road for all users.

September 2021 – Heathery Park Path Clearing – a third meet-up to clear the last weeds off the path was unable to be organised. Members to look again in spring 2022.